CLAIMS

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

- 1 λ . A method for transmitting packet data, comprising the
- 2 steps of:
- monitoring packet data transmission traffic between a
- 4 first switch and a second switch;
- 5 establishing a switched virtual circuit (SVC) wherein a
- 6 first end of said SVC in said first switch is assigned a
- 7 virtual termination address, wherein said address is one of
- 8 a plurality of software generated dummy addresses created in
- 9 said first switch fabric;
- 10 receiving a request from an end user to transmit from
- 11 said first switch to said second switch; and
- assigning said end user to said first end of said SVC.
 - 1 2. The method as set forth in Claim 1 further comprises
- 2 utilizing a predetermined threshold value of said
- 3 transmission traffic to determine the number of
- 4 virtually terminated SVCs to be installed.

- 1 3. The method as set forth in Claim 1 further comprising
- 2 the steps of:
- 3 receiving a request to disconnect said virtually
- 4 terminated SVC;
- 5 responsive to said request, disconnecting said first
- 6 end of said virtually terminated SVC from said end user; and
- 7 assigning said first end to one of said plurality of
- 8 dummy addresses, wherein said virtually terminated SVC
- 9 remains connected.
- 1 4. The method as set forth in Claim 3, further comprising
- 2 the step of:
- 3 responsive to said transmission traffic dropping below
- 4 a predetermined level, disconnecting said virtually
- 5 terminated SVC.
- 1 5. The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein the step of
- 2 establishing further comprises utilizing a media gateway
- 3 controller to establish said virtually terminated SVC
- 4 between said first and second switch.

- 1 6. The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said media
- 2 gateway controller maintains a predetermined number of
- 3 virtually terminated SVCs until said transmission traffic
- 4 exceeds said threshold value.
- 1 7. The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said
- 2 plurality of dummy addresses is created by a media gateway.
- 8. The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said
- 2 network is a telecommunications network.
- 1 9. The method as set forth in Claim 1, wherein said
- network is a computer network.

- 1 10. In a network, a system for communicating packet
- 2 data between a first switch and a second switch in a
- 3 network, comprising:
- 4 means for monitoring packet data transmissions between
- 5 said first and second switches;
- a media gateway in each of said first and second
- 7 switches for generating a plurality of dummy addresses in
- 8 the switch fabric of each of said first and second switch;
- a media gateway controller for installing a switched
- 10 virtual circuit between said first and second switch; and
- means for assigning one of said plurality of dummy
- 12 addresses to each of a first end and second end of said
- 13 switched virtual circuit.
- 1 11. The system as set forth in Claim 10, wherein said media
- 2 gateway in each of said first and second switches is capable
- 3 of establishing a predetermined number of said virtual
- 4 terminations in the switch fabric of each of said first
- 5 switch and said second switch.
- 1 12. The system as set forth in Claim 11, wherein said
- 2 monitoring means further comprises means for comparing a
- 3 threshold value of said packet data transmission to
- 4 determine a number of virtually terminated SVCs to be
- 5 installed.

- 1 13. The system as set forth in Claim 10, wherein said
- 2 controller further comprises:
- means for receiving a request to disconnect said
- 4 virtually terminated SVC;
- 5 responsive to said request means for disconnecting said
- 6 first end of said virtually terminated SVC from said end
- 7 user; and
- 8 means for assigning said first end to one of said
- 9 plurality of dummy addresses, wherein said virtually
- 10 terminated SVC remains connected.
- 1 14. The system as set forth in Claim 10, wherein said
- 2 controller further comprises means for establishing and
- 3 maintaining said virtually terminated SVC between said first
- 4 and second switches.
- 1 15. The system as set forth in Claim 10, comprises means
- 2 for disconnecting said virtually terminated SVC when said
- 3 packet data transmission drops below a predetermined level.
- 1 16. The system as set forth in Claim 10, wherein said
- 2 controller is capable of maintaining a predetermined number
- 3 of virtually terminated SVCs until said packet data
- 4 transmission exceeds said threshold value.

- 1 17. The system as set forth in Claim 10, wherein said
- 2 network is a telecommunications network.
- 1 18. The system as set forth in Claim 10, wherein said
- 2 network is a computer network.
- 1 19. A method for receiving packet data comprising the steps
- 2 of:
- monitoring transmission traffic between a first switch
- 4 and a second switch;
- establishing a switched virtual circuit (SVC) wherein a
- 6 second end of said SVC in said second switch is assigned a
- 7 virtual termination address, wherein said address is one of
- 8 a plurality of software generated dummy addresses created in
- 9 said second switch fabric;
- 10 receiving a signal to receive packet data from said
- 11 first switch; and
- assigning an end user to said second end of said SVC.
- 1 20. The method as set forth in Claim 19 further comprising
- 2 utilizing a predetermined threshold value of said
- 3 transmission traffic to determine the number of virtually
- 4 terminated SVCs to be installed.

- 1 21. The method as set forth in Claim 19 further comprising
- 2 the steps of:
- 3 receiving a request to disconnect said virtually
- 4 terminated SVC; and
- 5 responsive to said request, disconnecting said second
- 6 end of said virtually terminated SVC from said end user and
- 7 assigning said second end to said one of a plurality of
- 8 dummy addresses, wherein said virtually terminated SVC
- 9 remains connected.
- 1 22. The method as set forth in Claim 19, wherein the step
- of establishing further comprises:
- utilizing a media gateway controller to establish and
- 4 maintain said virtually terminated SVC.
- 1 23. The method as set forth in Claim 19, further comprising
- 2 the step of:
- 3 responsive to said packet data transmission dropping
- 4 below a predetermined level, disconnecting said virtually
- 5 terminated SVC.
- 1 24. The method as set forth in Claim 19, wherein said media
- 2 gateway controller maintains a predetermined number of
- 3 virtually terminated SVCs as long as said transmission
- 4 traffic exceeds said threshold value.

- 1 25. The method as set forth in Claim 19, wherein said media
- 2 gateway controller maintains a predetermined number of
- 3 virtually terminated SVCs as long as said transmission
- 4 traffic exceeds said threshold value.
- 1 26. A method for communicating packet data between two
- 2 switches in a network, comprising:
- monitoring packet data transmission traffic between a
- 4 first switch and a second switch;
- utilizing a predetermined threshold value to determine
- 6 whether to add additional virtual circuits between said
- 7 first and second switches;
- 8 establishing at least one switched virtual circuit
- 9 (SVC), wherein a first end of said SVC in said first switch
- 10 and a second end of said SVC in said second switch are each
- 11 assigned a virtual termination address, wherein each said
- 12 address are software generated dummy addresses each created
- in said first and second switch fabric;
- 14 receiving a request from a first end user to transmit
- 15 from said first switch to said second switch; and
- assigning said first end user to said first end of said
- 17 SVC and a second end user to the second end of said SVC;
- 18 receiving a disconnect signal from one of said end
- 19 users;

- 20 disconnecting each of said first and second end users
- 21 from said SVC;
- connecting said first and second end of said SVC to
- 23 said virtual termination addresses; and
- tearing down said virtually terminated SVC if said
- 25 packet data transmission drops below a predetermined level.